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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Finsterwalde Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 18 April 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS Paragraph 2 summarizes information in 25X1

RETURN TO CIA

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1. On 7 March 1952 between 2:30 and 3 p.m. and on 10 March between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m., the following aircraft were observed outside the hangars at Finsterwalde airfield: 2 type-27 jet bombers 25X1 2 type-30 jet bombers 25X1

25X1 8 twin-engine planes with double rudder assemblies, 2 twin-engine aircraft with nose wheels, and 3 twin-engine aircraft with single rudder assemblies. Between 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on 7 March, there was individual flying by Pe-2s, twin-engine aircraft with nose wheels and jet bombers. Aircraft 25X1 of these types, including the above mentioned jet bombers 25X1

25X1 practiced flying from 7 a.m. on 10 March. On 11 March, there was air activity until noon; there was no air activity on 12 March. No change was observed at the radio installation with four masts west of the field.

2. On 5 March, during air activity, a truck and a van-like truck were parked next to the landing cross on the airfield. The van-like truck had on the right side of its roof a light brown hemispherical cupola, about 1 meter high and 1.5 meters in diameter. (1) At 4 p.m. on 21 February, a railroad tank car with a capacity of 46 tons and bearing the chalk inscription "Fluchhafen" was observed at the Finsterwalde railroad station. 25X1 shunted nine tank cars with gasoline and one tank car with petroleum to the field on 10 March and that the cars were not emptied on 11 March. (2) 25X1 the eastern end of the runway projected about 250 meters beyond the spur track and that the runway was protected by barriers during air activity. The spur track extends behind the hangars as far as Hangar I. (3)

3. Between 9 and 11:30 a.m. on 15 March, local flying was practiced by 2 type-30 planes with extended landing gears and formation flying was performed by 3 type-27 planes which took off at intervals of 15 to 20 seconds. There was a 5/10 overcast at an 25X1 altitude of about 1,000 meters and a visibility of about 2 km. Between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 16 March, two type-30 aircraft with extended landing gears circled 25X1 the field. 25X1

25X1 The weather was cloudless and the visibility was limited to about 3 km. A B-25 plane 25X1 made individual flights which lasted from 10 to 20 minutes. A jet fighter landed at the field at about 10 a.m. and took off again about 20 minutes later. Between 3:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. on 10 March, there was individual flying by 2 B-25s, 25X1

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There as also local flying by 2 type-30s, [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] Between 3 a.m. and 4 p.m. on 19 March, the same  
 four planes circled the field in cloudless weather. The visibility was limited  
 to about 5 km. Five type-27 planes practiced flying in formations of three and  
 two. Between 5 and 6 p.m., [redacted] from the northern edge of the field  
 that 7 jet bombers, 13 Pe-2s, including 4 with light blue and 2 with red propeller  
 hubs, 4 B-25s, and 7 twin-engine planes of an unidentified type were parked in  
 front of the hangars.

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4. On 16 March, a large installation, located on both sides of Geschwister Scholl  
 Strasse in Finsterwalde, was still occupied by a motor transport unit. (4) Since  
 that day, a radio installation consisting of a radio truck with a mast, 10 to 12  
 meters high, next to it, has been located in the eastern section of this block.  
 About 12 wires, eight of which were counted, radiated from the masthead to the  
 ground. On top of the mast there was a cage aerial which led straight to the  
 ground and an individual antenna wire which extended to a birch-tree about 20  
 meters away. Radio truck [redacted] which had five insulators and metal rods above  
 the driver's cabin was also parked in the yard of the large building. (4)

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6. Between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on 11 March, at least 20 dark green twin-engine planes  
 with double rudder assemblies were observed at the field. Five were parked in  
 front of the western building, and 15 were observed in one row south of the run-  
 way. The rudder assembly of a jet plane was also observed. The weather was hazy  
 and very cloudy. Fifty-three soldiers with their baggage arrived at Finsterwalde  
 railroad station coming from the direction of Eilenburg. They were led by three  
 air force officers to the barracks installations at the field. The cover of an  
 officer's epaulet was found. (4) In addition to the previously reported red  
 markers, also white conical markers, about 60 centimeters high and 50 centimeters  
 wide, were observed on both sides of the runway at irregular intervals. (5) Motor  
 vehicles observed on the road to the field included:

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7. On 1 April, only nine twin-engine planes were observed on the landing field which  
 was strictly guarded. No air activity was noticed. Motor vehicles [redacted] 25X1  
 [redacted] were seen.

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8. On 4 April, 5 type-27 and type-30 planes, 4 twin-engine aircraft, and 1 biplane  
 were observed at the field. A type-27 plane had the black 10 24 aft of its plexi-  
 glass cockpit and a type-30 plane had the red No 12 on its rudder assembly.

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Motor vehicles [redacted] were observed entering and leaving the field. (7)

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[redacted] Comments.

(1) This vehicle probably is a radio truck with a plexiglass cupola from which an officer controls the traffic on the taxiway and runway. Similar vehicles were repeatedly reported from other airfields in the Soviet Zone of Germany.

(2) The arrival of these tank cars has not been reported [redacted]

25X1

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6) The report confirms that the two bomber units in Finsterwalde made progress in retraining with B-25s, type-27s and type-30s. The varying number of aircraft observed at the field can be explained by the fact that most of the aircraft were continuously parked in the hangars if there was no flying. Besides their old Pe-2s, the two bomber regiments are equipped with about 10 type-27 and type-30 planes and the same number of B-25s.

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